

THANKING ROSA CHEN FOR HER  
SERVICE TO THE HOUSE

**HON. VERNON J. EHLERS**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 14, 2006*

Mr. EHLERS. Mr. Speaker, on the occasion of her retirement in February 2006, I rise to thank Ms. Rosa Chen for 16 years of outstanding service to the U.S. House of Representatives.

Rosa began her career at the House working as a senior programmer/analyst. In that capacity, Rosa has served this great institution for the last 16 years as a valuable employee at House Information Resources, HIR, within the Office of the Chief Administrative Officer. Rosa has made significant contributions in the development of the Office Systems Management, OSM, application. The OSM application has been used by the CAO to control equipment inventory. Most recently, Rosa has played a significant technical support role on the Fixed Assets and Inventory Management System, FAIMS, where she was responsible for Oracle Developer reports customer support, and assisted with barcode function implementation for FAIMS physical inventory.

On behalf of the entire House community, I extend congratulations to Rosa for her many years of dedication and outstanding contributions to the U.S. House of Representatives. We wish Rosa many wonderful years in fulfilling her retirement dreams.

**PAYING TRIBUTE TO COURTNEY  
ZABLOCKI**

**HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDO**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 14, 2006*

Mr. TANCREDO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a talented young woman from Highlands Ranch, CO, Ms. Courtney Zablocki.

Courtney will proudly represent these United States of America in the 20th Winter Olympiad currently underway in Torino, Italy. Courtney will be competing as a slider in the women's luge events during this Olympiad.

Courtney has been training as a slider for the past 13 years. She will be competing in her second Winter Games. As a member of the United States Olympic women's luge team in Salt Lake City, Courtney finished 13th. In the final World Cup event before the Olympics Courtney finished in a promising fifth position.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to wish Courtney Zablocki a safe, successful and enjoyable Winter Olympics as she represents our country in Italy.

**IN HONOR OF THE 2006 OHIO BUSINESS WOMEN'S CONFERENCE AND EXPO**

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 14, 2006*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, please join me in honor and recognition of the 2006 Ohio

Business Women's Conference and Expo, held this year at Cleveland's Cleveland Renaissance Hotel & Conference Center.

The Conference & Expo is a collaborative effort, presented by the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce for Ohio, the Small Business Administration, the Urban League, the Northeast Ohio Minority Business Council (NOMBC), the National Association of Women Business Owners (NAWBO) and a coalition of Chambers of Commerce throughout Ohio. The event promises to attract hundreds of women business owners and numerous exhibitors.

The organizers of the Conference & Expo are focused on promoting women's business ventures and fostering vital connections of support where women entrepreneurs can find resources to expand and improve their business goals. Additionally, the Conference and Expo will provide a forum where women business owners can display their services and products to America's leading corporations and public agencies dedicated to doing business with women-owned businesses.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honor and recognition of the 2006 Ohio Business Women's Conference and Expo, a collaborative venture that promises to bolster the success of women business owners throughout our region. The event, while reflecting the continued struggle of women and minorities to attain economic equality and opportunity, also highlights the reality that through continued support and collaboration, the road to economic security and the attainment of professional dreams will be open to all women, clearing a path on which the next generation of women entrepreneurs will follow.

**HONORING HADLEY A. WEINBERG**

**HON. BRIAN HIGGINS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 14, 2006*

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Hadley A. Weinberg of Bemus Point, New York for being named by the Consumers' Research Council of America to its list of best financial planners throughout the United States.

Mr. Weinberg a partner at Weinberg Financial Group, Financial Education Resources and Chautauqua 401K with a total of eight affiliates at offices in Jamestown and Buffalo. He has served thousands of clients offering financial services from wealth management to retirement plans and is involved with numerous community organizations.

The criteria employed by the Consumers' Research Council complies its best financial planners list using criteria it deems valuable in determining its top professionals. This criteria includes experience, training, professional associations and financial certifications. All criteria Mr. Weinberg has accomplished all of this in his 23 years of service to the industry.

Mr. Weinberg has displayed extreme excellence in the field of financial planning, that is why, Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor him today.

**U.S. BUDGET CUTS WORRY  
HOSPITALS**

**HON. BARNEY FRANK**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 14, 2006*

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, in the February 8 issue of the Sun Chronicle, published in Attleboro, Massachusetts, there is a very good article about the reaction of hospitals to the President's proposal to change the Medicare law so that future spending would be less on Medicare than it otherwise would be.

In particular, the article quotes Linda Shyavitz, who is the president and CEO of Sturdy Memorial Hospital, an excellent medical facility that serves a very important and diverse population in the city of Attleboro.

Reading the article, including the comments of Ms. Shyavitz, reinforced my view that these proposed changes that the President has put forward are ill advised and would do social damage. I think it is important for Members to understand what people who are charged with important responsibilities think about these proposed reductions in future spending patterns that the President has called for, and because Ms. Shyavitz is an extremely well-qualified and thoughtful administrator of a very important medical facility, I was particularly pleased to have this chance to share her views with our colleagues.

[From the Sun Chronicle, Feb. 8, 2006]

U.S. BUDGET CUTS WORRY HOSPITALS

(By Gloria LaBounty)

ATTLEBORO.—Hospital administrators are keeping a wary eye on Congress as it plows through the Bush administration's proposed cuts in Medicare.

"I think hospitals all over the country will be fighting this," said Linda Shyavitz, president and chief executive officer of Sturdy Memorial Hospital in Attleboro.

According to initial reports, Bush's new \$2.7 trillion budget plan would mean a loss in Massachusetts of \$758 million in Medicaid funds.

It would also mean a reduction of \$213 million in Medicare payments to health-care providers over five years.

The Medicaid impact is still vague, however, because the state is redesigning its program, the Massachusetts Hospital Association says.

The Medicare piece already has hospitals concerned.

Although information so far has been presented in broad terms and details are still days away, Shyavitz said indications are that the proposal could mean a reduction to Sturdy of \$575,000 per in Medicare payments.

All elderly patients would still be cared for at Sturdy, but the hospital would get less reimbursement for the care it provides. Shyavitz said.

Asked how the hospital would compensate for the loss in revenue, Shyavitz said it would be premature to speculate because the information has just come out and the president's intentions are still being absorbed.

But she said what hospitals will do in the short term is urge members of Congress to reject the cuts and not support the budget.

Paul Wingle, senior director of communications for the state hospital association or MHA, said the Medicare cuts would put a financial strain on hospitals, and more of them would serve patients at a loss, or at a very thin margin.